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AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace page 25, ln. 1-26 of the specification, with the following amended version:

In the push block 2 of a second modification shown in FIG. 25(c), the front half 4b of the side contact surface 4 forms and obtuse angle θ relative to the front surface 2F of the push block 2, and the rear half 4c [[4b]] of the side contact surface 4 forms an obtuse angle θ relative to the rear surface 2B of the push block 2. Accordingly, the ridge line 4a, for breaking up the oil film, extends along the entire length of the side contact surface 4 at the center of the side contact surface 4 in the widthwise direction. The ridge line 4a of the second modification has a function similar to the ridge line 4a of the push block 2 of the second embodiment.

In the push block 2 of a third modification shown in FIGS. 25(d) and 26(b), a step .beta. extending along the entire length of the side contact surface 4 is provided at the front of the side contact surface 4. The ridge line 4a formed by the step β is located rearward from the center of the width 4W of the side contact surface 4. The oil film is broken up by the ridge line 4a. In the push block 2 of a third modification shown in FIG. 26(b), a plurality of grooves 4h extending parallel to the travel direction are formed in the side contact surface 4, and the front end of each recess groove 4h is connected to the step β. The residue of the oil film is discharged from the grooves 4 outside the push block 2.